

Cheeseboro & Palo Comado Canyons

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Santa Monica Mountains
National Recreation Area



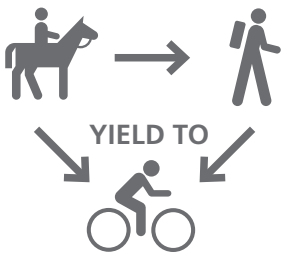
The gently rounded hills and canyons of Cheeseboro and Palo Comado are older than the steeper, more recently formed Santa Monica Mountains and provide popular terrain for hikers, bikers, and equestrians.

An Altered Landscape

For over 150 years, ranchers made these canyons their home. Many of the native plants, poorly adapted to heavy grazing, were replaced with European annuals such as wild oats, mustard, and thistles. Despite numerous years of cattle grazing, we can still find a variety of native plant communities, including chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and riparian woodlands.

You can stroll to Sulphur Springs or hike to the top of Simi Peak to view the cities you’ve left behind. Enjoy a picnic under the canopy of an oak or take binoculars to go birding. Oak trees and sedimentary rock areas provide excellent nesting sites for owls, hawks, and other raptors. Keep an eye out for deer, bobcats, coyotes, and rabbits.

Information and Safety



BE PREPARED by bringing water, food, map or some type of navigation device, a headlamp, and first-aid supplies on your hikes. Be alert for ticks, bees, rattlesnakes, and poison oak. Wear sturdy footwear, e.g. hiking boots or shoes with good tread. Cell phone reception is largely non-existent in much of this area.

TRAIL ETIQUETTE improves everyone’s trail experience. Hikers must yield to equestrians. Equestrians need to communicate with passing hikers and bicyclists. Horses are not allowed to graze or leave the trail. Remove manure from parking areas.

BICYCLISTS must ride courteously and yield to hikers and equestrians. Maximum speed is 15 mph or slower to protect visitor safety. Everyone: if listening to music, wear earbuds. Bicyclists may wear only one earbud.

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES including rocks, plants, and animals are protected by law and may not be collected or disturbed. Do not climb on structures. Weapons, nets, and traps are not allowed in parklands.

WILDFIRE is a year-round concern. Smoking and fires of any kind are not permitted on the trail. For current restrictions and fire danger level, visit www.nps.gov/samo.

TRAIL CLOSURES will be in effect during and following extreme weather or hazardous conditions.

PERMITS may be required for certain activities such as special and group events, filming, and professional photography. For more info, contact the Office of Special Park Uses at 805-370-2308 or visit: www.nps.gov/samo.

PETS must be under control and on a leash, not to exceed six feet, at all times. Pick up after your pet. Pets are not allowed off trail.

VEHICLES are restricted to designated roads and parking areas.

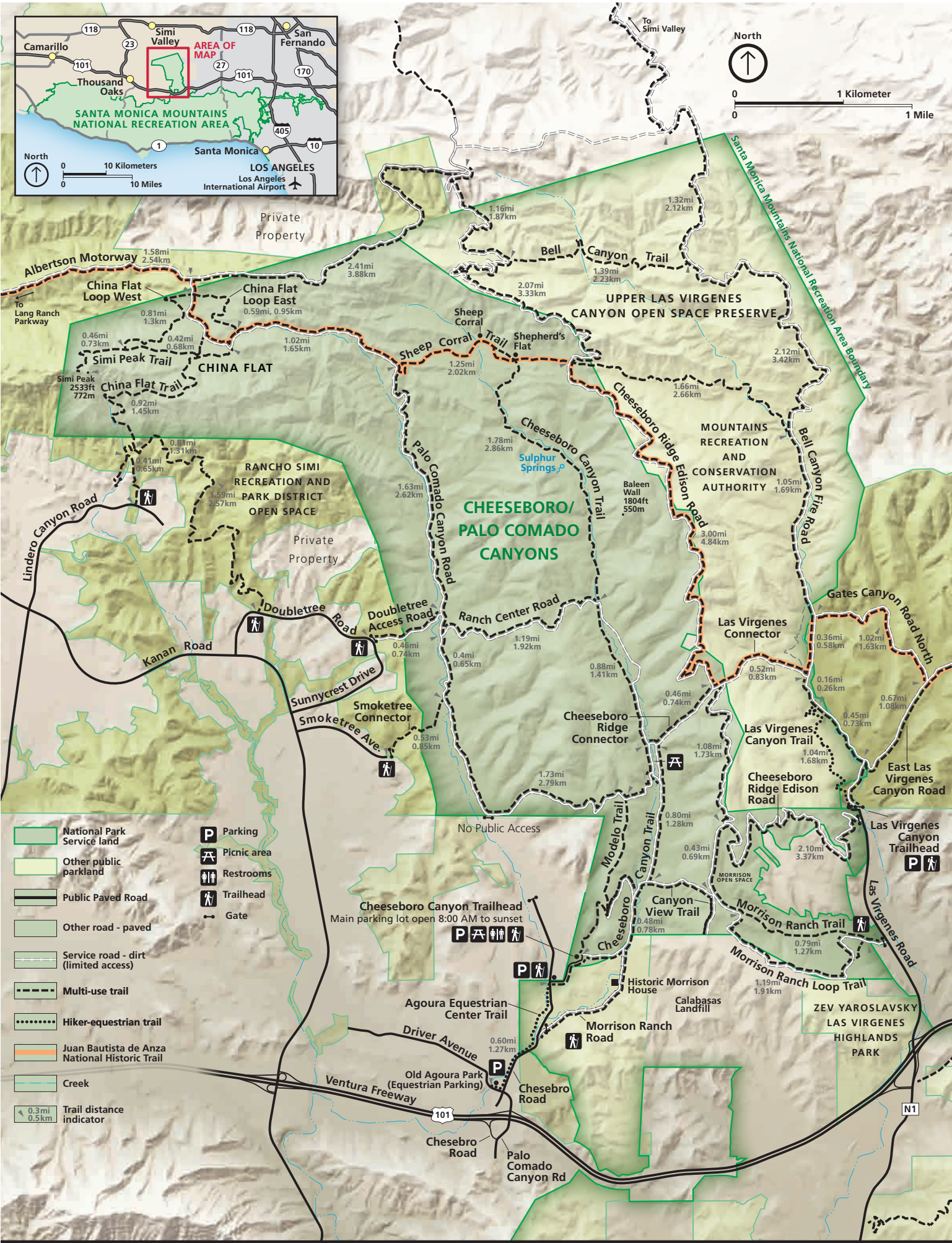
Cheeseboro and Palo Comado Canyons
5792 Chesebro Rd
Agoura, CA, 91301

The main parking area is open from 8:00 a.m. – sunset. Respect private property and park in designated areas.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
Santa Monica Mountains
Interagency Visitor Center
26876 Mulholland Hwy
Calabasas CA 91302
805-370-2301
www.nps.gov/samo

EMERGENCIES
Call 911. For a ranger, call
Santa Monica Dispatch
at 805-370-2399.



Canyon View Trail ♦ 0.75 mile—This trail splits to the east of the Cheeseboro Canyon Trail and climbs to a knoll above the Calabasas Landfill. You can see most of Cheeseboro Canyon by looking west.

Cheeseboro Canyon Trail ● 4.6 miles—Follow an old ranch road along a streambed through a valley oak savannah and coast live oak riparian zone. A picnic area is located 1.6 miles from the parking lot. At 3.3 miles, you will smell the odor of rotten eggs due to the sulphur present in Sulphur Springs.

Modelo Spur ■ 0.75 mile—This trail meanders up from the parking lot through grasslands to a lone coast live oak on the ridge. Follow the trail east and join the Cheeseboro Canyon Trail.

Modelo Trail ● 1.0 mile—Starting at the ridge line of the Modelo Spur and continuing north along the ridge, this pathway offers views of both canyons. This trail ends at the Palo Comado Connector Trail where you can turn right to travel east towards Cheeseboro Canyon or left to travel west towards Palo Comado Canyon.

Palo Comado Canyon Trail ♦ 6.0 miles—For 1.2 miles enjoy a gentle stroll along a creek to the old ranch center. A mile past the ranch site, you will climb from 1,200 feet elevation to the scenic China Flat at 2,140 feet elevation.

Simi Peak Trail ■ 0.75 mile—This trail winds from China Flat to Simi Peak (2,403 ft), the highest point in the area. Enjoy a spectacular view of Oak Park, Agoura Hills, and Simi Valley.

Ranch Center Connector ♦ 1.1 miles—This trail crosses a chaparral hillside and connects Cheeseboro and Palo Comado Canyons.

● Easy ■ Moderate ♦ Strenuous